

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Madam President, the Senate will convene tomorrow at 10 a.m. and resume consideration of the motion to proceed to the aviation security bill. There is every hope we can complete that bill in the immediate future.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator GRAHAM of Florida and Senator TORRICELLI of New Jersey.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Florida.

PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN

Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, throughout America the events of September 11 have touched our people and have brought forth a level of thoughtful eloquence which has contributed to our ability to understand and to be able to deal with the extreme shock and pain of those agonizing images we all hold of the events of September 11.

On Sunday, I attended the services at my church, the Miami Lakes Congregational Church, where our pastor, Rev. Jeffrey Frantz, delivered an exceptional sermon. I would like his words and thoughts and message to be made available to a broader audience, and therefore I ask unanimous consent, Madam President, that Reverend Frantz' sermon, "Proud to be an American," be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the sermon was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

"PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN!"

Living Out Our Faith in a Dangerous World

(By Dr. Jeffrey E. Frantz, Miami Lakes Congregational Church, Miami Lakes, FL)

Isaiah 42:5-9, Matthew 5:1-16

I

In these past few weeks, now, since the *September 11th* nightmare, our lives have been jolted and challenged, stretched and turned upside down, like never before. It's like so many have commented: *everything has changed*.

1. First, the sweeping impact, on all levels, of the tragic event itself . . . the anger and rage, coupled with the mourning and grief. We were left numb with disbelief.
2. And then, later, the realization that we have to somehow get on with our lives. We have to put our lives back together. We can't let fear tell us who we are. We have to dig deeply into our self-understanding, our identity as a people, and affirm the best of our traditions.
3. We've been dealt a deathly blow; and its reaches have touched virtually every part of our lives: the economy, all levels

of our government, the entertainment world, our psychological and spiritual life.

I was reading an issue of Time Magazine this past week that predated the *September 11th* disaster. And it was like virtually all of the news seemed suddenly irrelevant and inconsequential. Suddenly Michael Jordan's possible comeback to the NBA seemed trifling and insignificant. We weren't much interested in who Jennifer Lopez might be marrying and where, or in the latest rumor about Julia Roberts or Tom Cruise.

Suddenly all of the usual quibbling and whimpering that clutter our lives seem out of place and so, so harmless. Indeed, it's a new day. And a swelling patriotism is everywhere. I've never seen America so united. We're coming together as we never have in the past fifty years or more.

People, all over, are coming together. There are problems, to be sure, with some of the understandable, but inexcusable profiling that has been going on. And we must do all we can to curb any such intolerance or injustice. It is a difficult time to be an Arab-American.

Also, there's an eerie frenzy about the prospect of biological warfare and chemical or germ warfare—scary stuff. Still, people are coming together. Literally hundreds, if not thousands, of relief efforts are underway around the nation, even the world. The amount of money being raised in relief support is already staggering.

American flags have never been in such resplendent display. Patriotic hymns and expressions of one kind or another are on every radio station and on every street corner.

American pride is rising to a magnificent height, and it makes us proud.

I say this because, at our best, America is a wondrous land, a delightful rainbow people of God's creative hand. Our freedom is our heartbeat, our pulse. But our marvelous diversity is freedom's precious child.

Reports suggest that people from as many as sixty nations perished in the rubble of the World Trade Center. You see, friends, we are the world! That's not a pronouncement of arrogance; but rather it is a description of the incredible variety of human beings that fill the reaches of our land.

II

Perhaps some of you saw the televised memorial observance last Sunday afternoon from Yankee Stadium in New York City. With some initial words from James Earl Jones, and emceed by Oprah Winfrey, it was a moving and touching service throughout.

Along with tear-streaked cheeks and broken hearts, the diversity of America was everywhere. In the stands, to be sure, with family members, deeply saddened, holding pictures of missing loved ones. And up front around the podium: clerics and clergy, holy men and women—arrayed in their sacred garments, gathered to pray and read holy writings—a magnificent diversity.

There were Christian and Jew, Muslim and Buddhist, Hindu and Sikh, believer and non-believer—from every imaginable ethnic group and tribe. America is the world!

*O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties,
Above the fruited plain.*

I'm proud to be an American
*America, America!
God shed God's grace on thee.
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.*

III

This is our vision; this is our dream. It's part of our inheritance, part of our history

and tradition. Almost from our inception, we have been what Second Isaiah called Israel, *a light to the nations*.

This wasn't always Israel's self-understanding. She had been *God's chosen people*, yes. But her chosenness didn't necessarily extend beyond her borders. But, now, in exile . . . seemingly defeated, a new vision of Israel emerged:

*I will give you as a light to the nations,
said the prophet.*

That my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

This universalizing of Israel's role and purpose marks a break-through for Israel's self-identity. Israel's *chosenness*, now, is to be shared . . . to the ends of the earth. *That my salvation may reach out to all people*, says the prophet.

Friends, America too, is such a light! Whether chosen or not, America has always felt that God's hand was on us in a special way. There is a tantalizingly thin line, that lingers: between the arrogance of presumption and the humility of endowment.

Still, no matter how we understand ourselves as Americans, we are a nation of vast resources, of tremendous power and wealth. We have so much to be grateful for. We have been so wondrously blessed.

Along with our power and wealth comes great responsibility. Whatever *salvation* God can work through us comes most abundantly and effectively through our humility. And no matter how we choose to construe our present national crisis, our responsibility—in the way we respond—is enormous. Clearly, all of the world is watching our every move, picking up cues from what we do.

1. I'm proud to be an American . . . in an America that indeed is a *light to the nations*. An America that stands tall, to be sure, but an America whose greatness is seen in its *humbleness of spirit*.

2. Such humbleness of spirit, grounded in the teachings and example of Christ, IS the key to our future, and indeed to the future of the world, as we work our way through the chaos and the complexity of these difficult times.

*Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

Blessed are the meek,

for they shall inherit the earth.

*Blessed are those who hunger for righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.*

Blessed are the pure in heart,

for they shall see God,

*Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be children of God.*

IV

There's been much talk, since *September 11th*, of our vulnerability. Our vulnerability is, however, nothing new. We've always been vulnerable. It's the human condition. These *blessed conditions, the beatitudes of Jesus*, are transparent reminders of this truth.

We cannot save ourselves. Understandably, we're frenzied in our rush to make our lives safe again, to get our life back. We see this abundantly exemplified, now, as we invest enormous dollars and effort to beef up our national security and intelligence on all fronts, as we clearly must do.

And yet, as people of faith, We've never lost our life. Our life is in God and in God's eternal love and saving grace that have no end.

Part of what is so vividly apparent in all of this is that we live in a world that is irreversibly interdependent and global; and we must increasingly see ourselves in this light.

In no way, therefore, can we isolate ourselves from the sufferings, deprivations and tribulations of any nation. We're too interconnected; our power and influence are too great.

I'm proud to be an American . . . in an America that indeed is a light to the nations. An America that rises to the challenge of the requirements of greatness. We are a great nation. And what are the requirements of our greatness.

1. *To be a good listener.* Humility and love demand this of us: to embrace the other life . . . the other tribe . . . the other religion with respect and honor.

2. *To think long-term* in whatever we do. We must be deliberate and wise in our consideration of what kind of a world—what kind of an Afghanistan, what kind of a Pakistan, or any other nation—do we want to see emerge on the other side of whatever action we take.

3. *To respond to evil run amok.* Evil of the proportions of the current global terrorism must be eradicated. Global terrorism must be stopped. Most likely, we cannot avoid some measure of violence and aggression. But how we proceed, and with what level of international support, is of the utmost importance.

V

Violence and war must never—too easily, too quickly—become options. Sometimes, when evil and demonic forces are too out-of-control, we may well have no choice. But even then, it is only with great mercy and sorrow in our hearts that we act.

All of which is to suggest that violence, and resolution through violence, are never as easy as we think. It's never just a matter of *going in and taking care of business*. Ethnic and tribal hatreds endure, as we are seeing today, for decades and decades . . . even centuries.

We see that in Northern Ireland. We've seen it in Kosovo and what was Yugoslavia, where ethnic and tribal hatreds have been warning for centuries on end. We see it, now, in Afghanistan: tribal warlords at odds, killing one another and perpetuating the cycle of violence for generations to come. And we see it, too, in the endless hostilities that continue to cast a pall of gloom over Israel and Palestine.

Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke prophetically to us about the problem with violence: *"The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. Through violence you may murder the hater, but you do not murder the hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate, returning violence for violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive hate out; only love can do that."*

We're Christians, friends, children of God, before we are anything else. That does not mean that we should not take care of our own. It means that we understand that taking care of our own is rooted, first, in an impulse of love and respect, understanding and acceptance of all nations, all religions.

I'm proud to be an American in an America that understands that when the international community is strong and healthy—when freedom and hope are finding their way around the earth, when the dreams of people everywhere have hope of realization—then America is strong. And then America is safe.

VI

We're a light to the nations. I believe that. And I believe it at the foot of the cross.

We must spread the light of God's blessings to all peoples. This is not easy. In fact, it is

very complex and will require great sacrifice on our part, as it has in the past. It will take time, even decades and more.

Yet, to work our way thru the rubble of *September 11th*, we must make international coalitions and networks of understanding our number one priority.

We must improve our sense of geography—our awareness of other cultures and religions. We must lead from a strength that exudes love, charity, compassion and historical understanding. Because then, and only then, will we begin to bring a healing and peace that endure to our fragmented world.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven . . . blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth . . . blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God . . .

You are the light of the world . . . let your light shine before all the world . . . that the world may see your faith and give glory to God in heaven . . .

America, America!

God shed God's grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood,
from sea to shinning sea . . .

How beautiful, two continents,
and islands in the sea . . .
That dream of peace, non-violence,
all people living free.

America, America!

God grant that we may be . . .
A hemisphere, indeed one earth,
living in harmony.

I'm proud to be an American, O yes; and to be a child of the living God, the God of the heavens and the earth and all that is in it. Amen.

Mr. GRAHAM. Thank you, Madam President. And to my colleague, Senator TORRICELLI, I say thank you for your forbearance.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

AIRPORT SECURITY

Mr. TORRICELLI. Madam President, I thank my colleague and friend from Florida. Indeed, it was a pleasure to hear his remarks.

In my service in the Congress through these years, I have rarely—indeed, I have never—witnessed the solidarity of the membership, the focus of purpose that has been evident since the tragedy of September 11. Partisan differences, differences of region and philosophy have been impossible to discern in the debates on the Senate floor.

Tomorrow the Senate resumes debate on legislation to deal with airline and airport security. There may be a slight fissure in this wall of solidarity. I rise to address it this evening.

It is not necessarily a difference of party affiliation or of philosophy, but it does have some regional implications where people of goodwill can differ because of different experiences. It needs to be put in perspective, but it is still important.

This body is right, indeed; the Senate has no choice but to deal with the issue of airport security. Our national economy has taken a terrible toll in the loss of employment and income. Lives

have been lost. Families have been broken. Confidence in the freedom to travel in America has been shaken—all because of the acts of terrorists who hijacked planes and killed our citizens.

To the cynic, our legislation represents closing the barn door. The cynics may be right. But that does not mean the Senate has a choice. Whether it is providing armed marshals on aircraft or federalizing the check-in system, changing cockpit doors, it may be too late for thousands, but it is still not too late for our country. It is a responsibility we owe to the American people. It must be done, and it must be done quickly. We can lament that we did not forecast the problem, but we are left with the reality of dealing with it.

This, however, invites the question of whether the obligation of the Senate is simply to deal with the problem that is now before us, a problem made clear by the terrorists themselves in the means by which they hijacked these planes, their mode of operation, or whether our responsibility is to anticipate.

On September 11, it was the hijacking of aircraft. There was no reason to believe that would be the mode of operation in a future attack.

In some areas of the country, transportation is simply defined. It is either aircraft or it is driving automobiles. In our great metropolitan areas, it is far more complex. More people use trains every day, I suspect, in New York and Boston and Philadelphia and Chicago, perhaps in St. Louis or Miami or Los Angeles, perhaps in these places, but I can assure you certainly in the State of New Jersey more people ride on commuter rail, on Amtrak, than ride on every airliner combined. It is another spot of vulnerability. So are our reservoirs, our powerplants. All these are places of vulnerability that must be addressed.

If the Senate tomorrow is to address safety in transportation, that debate cannot be complete if we secure aircraft without dealing with railroads because they are equally vulnerable.

Indeed, every Metroliner that leaves New York for Boston or Washington potentially can hold up to 2,000 people. Every train represents three 747s with average loads. Under any time in a tunnel along the Northeast corridor where two trains pass, 3,000 or 4,000 people can be vulnerable at an instant.

Indeed, long before this tragedy occurred, the Senate was put on notice by Amtrak that its tunnels were aging and had safety difficulties. Indeed, the six tunnels leading to Penn Station in New York under the Hudson River were built between 1911 and 1920. The Senate has been told they do not have ventilation. They do not have standing firehoses, and they do not have escape routes.

The Senate would like to deal with transportation safety by securing airplanes. If only life were so easy. It is